

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNESCO:FHARTLEY:LL

APPROVED BY IO:CWMAYNES

IO/UNESCO:RDFORSTER

IO:GADALLEY

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT AIDE-MEMOIRE FOR M'BOW ON MASS MEDIA DRAFT

DECLARATION

1. HEREWITH CHANGES IN AIDE MEMOIRE HAND CARRIED TO PARIS
BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DALLEY. PLEASE NUMBER
PARAGRAPHS OF OLD DRAFT CONSECUTIVELY ONE THROUGH FOURTEEN.
FOLLOWING KEYED TO THIS NUMBERING.

2. CHANGE PARA ONE TO READ: "WE CANNOT SUPPORT THE
PRESENT DRAFT DECLARATION ON MASS MEDIA PRINCIPLES,
PRIMARILY BECAUSE IT CONTINUES TO BE BASED ON IMPLICIT
ASSUMPTIONS WHICH WE DO NOT SHARE: THAT IN THE TASKS OF
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'CONSTRUCING THE DEFENSES OF PEACE IN THE MINDS OF MEN,'
AND IN COMBATTING RACISM AND OTHER INJUSTICES, THE
INDEPENDENT MEDIA OF THE WORLD ARE SOMEHOW BLAMEWORTHY
AND THEIR BEHAVIOR MUST THEREFORE BE REGULATED ACCORDING-
LY."

3. CHANGE PARA TWO TO READ: "WE DISPUTE THESE ASSUMPTIONS

ON TWO GROUNDS. FIRST, THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE ACTS OF GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED MEDIA AND THE INDEPENDENT MEDIA IS CRITICAL. WHILE WE ACKNOWLEDGE ..." CHANGE ENDING OF SENTENCE BEGINNING "IN MY OWN COUNTRY ..." TO "... CIVIL RIGHTS REVOLUTION AND THE PEACE MOVEMENT." IN NEXT SENTENCE, INSERT "AUTONOMOUS" BEFORE "MEDIA," MAKING IT READ "... COMMITTED NOT BY THE AUTONOMOUS MEDIA BUT BY STATES, ..."

4. PARA THREE, FIRST SENTENCE, INSERT "INDEPENDENT" BEFORE "MEDIA." MAKE LAST SENTENCE READ: "... NOTION THAT THE AUTONOMOUS MEDIA SHOULD BE COERCED INTO SERVING AS A TOOL OF OFFICIAL POLICY; RATHER THEY SHOULD BE ..."

5. CHANGE PARA FOUR TO READ: "THIS IS NOT ONLY A TRADITIONAL AND DEEPLY ROOTED CONVICTION OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DERIVING FROM A CARDINAL PRINCIPLE OF OUR CONSTITUTION, BUT ALSO AN INTERNATIONAL STANDARD ACCEPTED BY THE STATE PARTIES TO THE CONSTITUTION OF UNESCO, WHICH COMMITS US TO THE UNRESTRICTED PURSUIT OF OBJECTIVE TRUTH AND THE FREE EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND KNOWLEDGE. THE U.S. GOVERNMENT CANNOT BE A PARTY TO AN INTERNATIONAL ACCORD WHICH WOULD APPEAR TO COMMIT US TO A POSITION OR ACTION IN VIOLATION OF OUR OWN CONSTITUTION AND THE CONSTITUTION OF UNESCO. TO US IT IS CLEAR THAT THE TENDENCY TO RESTRICT CERTAIN MEDIA ACTIVITIES AND TO MANDATE OTHERS

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THROUGH INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS RUNS COUNTER TO THE PRINCIPLE OF A FREE AND BALANCED FLOW OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE PREAMBLE AND ARTICLE 1 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF UNESCO."

6. MAKE PARA FIVE READ: "WE COMMEND ..." CORRECTING TYPO. PARAS SIX AND SEVEN UNCHANGED.

7. IN PLACE OF PARA 8 (WHICH BECOMES NEW PARA 12) SUBSTITUTE SINGLE SENTENCE: "WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD START ON A DIFFERENT FOUNDATION."

8. MAKE PARA 9 READ: "WE ARE ATTENTIVE TO THE SPECIAL ... THEY DESERVE EMPHASIS. WE UNDERSTAND THEIR CONCERN OVER THE IMBALANCE IN INFORMATION FLOWS AND COMMUNICATIONS RESOURCES. WE APPRECIATE ... CULTURAL HERITAGE. AND WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THEIR DESIRE FOR GREATER ACCESS TO AND PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESSES OF COMMUNICATION CAN SERVE THE GOALS OF DEVELOPMENT. IN OUR OWN COUNTRY, WIDENING ACCESS TO COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN ACCELERATING THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR ECONOMY AND THE FORGING OF A UNITED COUNTRY. WE THEREFORE ENDORSE ..."

OF OTHER COUNTRIES."

9. PARA TEN UNCHANGED. PARA ELEVEN ("WE STRONGLY SUPPORT ...") BECOMES NEW PARA THIRTEEN. PARA TWELVE BECOMES NEW PARA ELEVEN (BEGINNING "WE FIRMLY BELIEVE ...").

,0. PARA EIGHT BECOMES NEW PARA TWELVE, ADDING FOLLOWING TO LAST SENTENCE: " ... WITHIN UNESCO, PERHAPS THROUGH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE STUDY OF COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS."

11. PARA THIRTEEN BECOMES NEW PARA FOURTEEN, MAKING SECOND SENTENCE READ: "WE MUST ... ENFORCEABLE OBLIGATIONS UPON THE FREE MEDIA OR THAT BARRIERS BE ERECTED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEIR DEVELOPMENT."

12. OLD PARA FOURTEEN BECOMES NEW PARA 15.

13. PERMDEL IS REQUESTED TO INCORPORATE THESE CHANGES INTO FRENCH TRANSLATION AND DELIVER TO DIRECTOR GENERAL ON BEHALF OF DALLEY.

14. DG MAY BE REMINDED THAT DALLEY HAD PROMISED HIM INVENTORY OF U.S. COMMUNICATION ASSISTANCE RELEVANT TO TUNISIAN RESOLUTION AT 19TH GC. THIS COMING BY SEPTEL.

15. DEPT BELIEVES IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS FOR SECRETARIAT TO HAVE COPY (MINUS CERTAIN DELETIONS) OF LEGAL ANALYSIS OF DRAFT DECLARATION ON MASS MEDIA. CHANGES NECESSARY FOR DECLASSIFYING DOCUMENT WILL BE PROVIDED BY SEPTEL. VANCE

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